ATLAS.ti for Mac 1.0.x Getting Started

ATLAS.ti for Mac - Getting Started

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Introduction

This **Getting Started Guide** provides an overview of the main features of ATLAS.ti for Mac 1.0.x, the younger sibling of ATLAS.ti for Windows. It is written for users with no prior experience of working with ATLAS.ti, but also for users new to the Mac version. If you prefer a more detailed description of all features, please take a look at the full manual (http://manual.atlasti.com)

This very first version for Mac does not yet contain all features of the Windows version, therefore we recommend it for the following user group:

- Single users who want to start working on a new project
- Single users who already started a project under Windows but are still in the coding phase
- Single users who want to work within the Mac environment they love and are familiar with who but do not have sophisticated analysis needs (see "Further Analysis Tools").

This version does not yet support team projects!

There are quite a number of neat new features in ATLAS.ti for Mac that are not available under Windows, such as the inspectors, the quotation display in the Quotation Manager, the way of handling audio and video data, the Undo function:-), full Unicode support, and much more. For a full comparison of features see the feature matrix table, available from http://mac.atlasti.com/

This table (and this guide) will be updated on a regular basis to reflect the functionality and features as they are added to the Mac version in the coming months.

In developing ATLAS.ti for Mac, the aim was to create a software for Mac users that lets them feel at home, not just a copy the Windows version. Therefore, the two versions will never be completely identical. However, some of the features that are already available in the Mac version will also be implemented in ATLAS.ti 8. The Windows version and the Mac version will "learn" from each other and will continue to inspire future development.

The Interface

Below you see the main features of the ATLAS.ti for Mac interface:

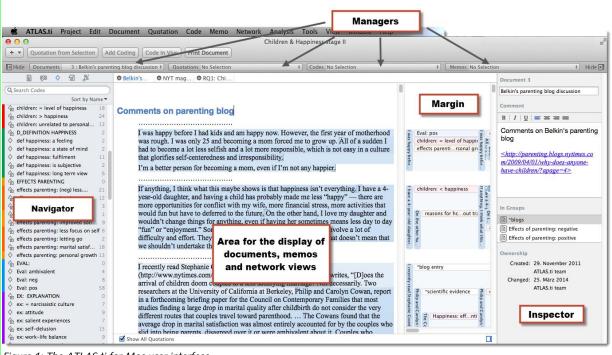
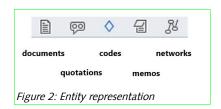


Figure 1: The ATLAS.ti for Mac user interface

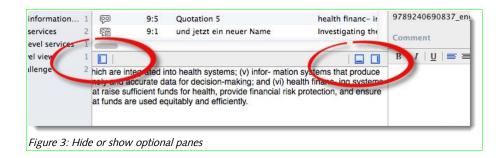
The main entities are symbolized by the following icons:



Personalize Your Screen



A number of panes that you see in the default interface view can be hidden like for instance the navigator or the inspector. If this is possible, you see a small icon or a text "Hide/Show" that you can click.



Multiple Document View

You can load multiple documents side-by-side or split your screen horizontally, or both. And this does not only apply to documents, you can also open a document and a network view or a document and a memo side-by-side, or two documents side-by- side and a memo horizontally above or below (see for instance Figure 21 and Figure 22). This is how it works:

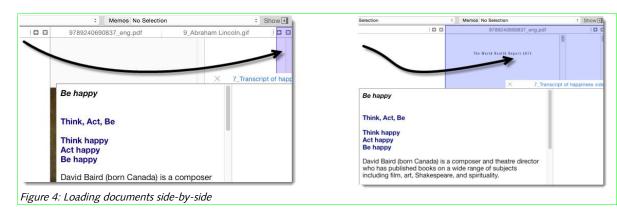
Click on the plus sign to add a new region.

Right-click on the document tab and select **Duplicate Tab** (see left) to load an already opened document into a new region. You also find the "Duplicate Tab" option under the main menu **Windows / Duplicate Tab**.



First load a document, memo or network into the display area.

Grab the document / memo / network view tab that you want to move, left-click and drag it to the right, left, top or bottom border of the main screen. When a small purple bar appears, you can drop it (see Figure 4).



If you want to replace another document / memo / network view that is currently loaded, drag and drop the object tab on top of document / memo / network view area (see below). Instead of just the small bar, the entire region for this object is highlighted in purple.



OPENING MULTIPLE WINDOWS

To open a document, network or memo in a window of its own:

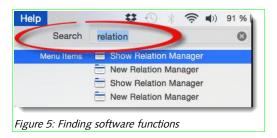
Drag and drop the object tab outside the ATLAS.ti window and drop it there

Or select the option **Move Tab to New Window** from the context menu or the main menu Windows.

Finding Your Way Around The Software

If you are not sure where to find a function, just search for it under **Help**. For instance, you want to know where the Relation Manager is. Typing in the first letters of a search term shows a list of hits.

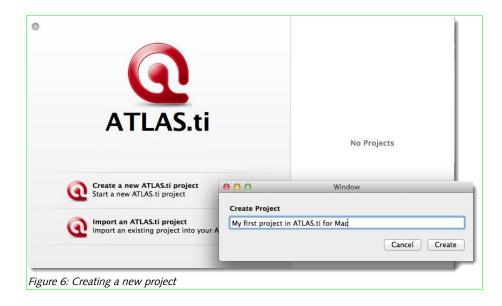
When selecting an entry that seems to be the one that you are looking for, it will show you where you can find it. Click on the selected hit in the list, and ATLAS.ti for Mac will open up the function for you.



Creating A New Project

When you open ATLAS.ti for Mac for the first time, you have two choices: Create a new project, or import an existing one from other ATLAS.ti applications.

Select Create A New ATLAS.TI Project and enter a project name:



Importing Projects From Other ATLAS.ti Applications

If you have previously used ATLAS.ti for Windows version and wish to import your project from this version, your first step will need to be updating the Windows version to version 7.5 or higher. Then export your projects via PROJECT / EXPORT / MAC TRANSFER BUNDLE.

You can also export your iPad and Android projects to be used in ATLAS.ti for Mac. Please update the apps if you have not recently done so.

On your Mac, double-click on the exported file or use the import option shown above.

Importing Survey Data

These days a lot of surveys are conducted online. Positive side effects are that (a) all data is immediately available in digital format, and (b) respondents are often willing to provide lengthy answers to open-ended questions. This was rarely the case with paper-and-pencil surveys . Statistical programs like SPSSTM offer some options to analyze open-ended questions, but basically require you to encode each answer with a number. A proper qualitative analysis of the answers is not possible with these tools. ATLAS.ti, however, does permit comprehensive analysis with great ease and in great depth.

A typical work flow for working with survey data looks like this:

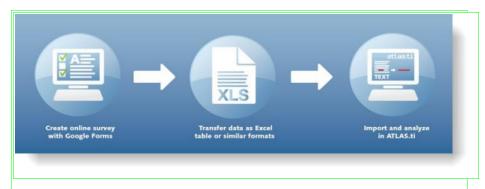


Figure 7: Work flow when importing survey data

Online surveys can be created using a variety of tools. What most of them have in common is that they let you export data as ExcelTM file. And this is what you need to prepare for import in ATLAS.ti (see below).

Based on specific prefixes that you add to your variable names, ATLAS.ti interprets the column headers and cells of the Excel™ table in various ways and turns them into primary documents, the contents of the primary documents, primary document families, quotations, codes, comments, and code families.

Data are imported case-based. This means each row of the Excel[™] table that is imported from the online survey tool is transformed into a primary document.

How Survey Data Is Treated In ATLAS.ti

To represent the results of an online survey within the framework of ATLAS.ti in the most accurate and complete manner, a few basic requirements need to be considered.

A survey broadly consists of the name of the survey, the questions, and the answers from each respondent. Questions can be of different types, such as single-choice questions (yes/no, or offering more than two options), multiple-choice questions, or open ended questions. Within the framework of ATLAS.ti these concepts are mapped as follows:

Open-ended question:	Code (and code
question	comment)
answer	Content of a quotation
Single Choice 0/1	PD group
Single Choice > 2 options	PD group from question plus value
Multiple Choice	PD group from question plus value

A general recommendation is to include the following variables from the online survey:

• Variables describing the respondents, i. e. the classical demographic variables like age group, gender, profession, educational level, income groups, etc.. Turn those variables into PD families.

- Responses to open-ended questions. Turn those into coded segments.
- Selected other variables like answers to single or multiple choice questions that are important in relation to analyzing the open-ended questions.

Preparing An Excel™ Table For Import

The following table shows the list of all available prefixes that you can to add to the column headers in Excel™ in order for ATLAS.ti to interpret the cells in various ways.

Prefixes and their interpretation	
Prefix	Result
!	Defines the column to list the names of the primary documents. This column can be omitted. If you do no want to provide a specific name for each document, ATLAS.ti automatically creates this column. The default name for each document is case 1, case 2, case 3 and so on.
^	Defines the column to list the primary document's author
&	Defines the primary document's date, expects ISO8601 format, see: http://www.cl.cam.ac.uk/~mgk25/iso-time.html Example: 4th of February 1995 or 1995-02-04 in ISO8601 format = YYYYMMDD = 19950204
<	Ignore this column, use to exclude stuff inserted by the survey tool
	Creates a PD family from the field name. Currently the cell needs to contain the number 1, or the words Yes or Ja to be applied. Use for single choice questions where respondents can answer yes or no (or encoded as 1 and 0). Only the responses encoded with yes/ja or 1 become part of the PD family.
:	Creates a PD Family from the field name plus cell value. Use for single choice question like gender.
#	Creates a PD Family from the field name plus the actual cell value. Use for single choice questions with more than two answer options or for multiple choice questions.
	Add no prefix to all open ended questions. The text in the column header is used as code. To avoid very long code name, use a short form to indicate the question and add the full question as comment (see next row)
::	All text entered after two colons is added to the object's comment field. This can be applied to cells resulting in PD families or codes.

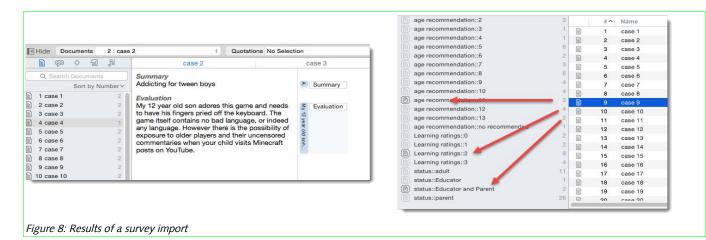
How To Import Survey Data

- Prepare an Excel table as explained above. Save the table (as xls or xlsx file). Close Excel (or at least the document that you want to import).
- Open ATLAS.ti and select Project / Import Survey.

The import procedure starts and ATLAS.ti informs you when the data is fully imported.

During the import, one primary document is created from every row. Unlike "normal" PDs that get their contents from files, these primary documents need to have their content (data source) created as well.

The creation of the textual contents is done as follows: Each row is scanned from left to right, column by column. Each cell's content belonging to an openended question field is appended to the currently built document (case). In addition, each piece of appended text is also referenced as a *quotation* automatically coded with the current question.



Those columns defined as variables are turned into PD groups. Special families are created for all imported PDs and codes to make filtering and analysis of the survey material easy (see Figure 7 above).

Save the project.

If you import the same table repeatedly, rows with already existing PDs are ignored. This way, you do not have to wait until the last respondent has filled out the questionnaire.

Project Management

Project Management is simple. Similar to iTunes, ATLAS.ti is saving your project data at a location that is provided for each application. This location is user specific. If more than one user is using the same computer, you need to log in under your personal user name to access your ATLAS.ti projects.

You can close, rename, duplicate, delete and export projects. You find these options under the Project menu and in the Open Project window (**PROJECT / OPEN**), when you right-click on a project name (see below):



Project Backup And Transfer

To create a backup copy of your project, or to transfer a project to a different computer, select **Project / Export Project...**

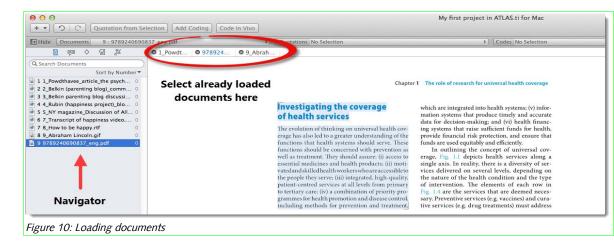
Adding And Loading Documents

ATLAS.ti for Mac supports text (Word (doc and docx), RTF, OpenOffice (odt), PDF, image, audio and video files (all formats supported by QuickTime). Documents are imported and your project is saved silently.

To add documents, select **Project / Import Documents....**

All loaded documents can be accessed via the navigator that you find on the left-hand side of the screen, or via tabs. If you later on have memos and network views, they can also be accessed this way.

Load one or more documents with a double-click on the document in the navigator.

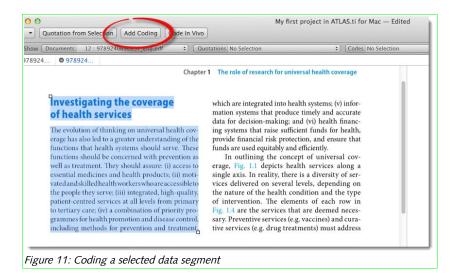


Working With Codes

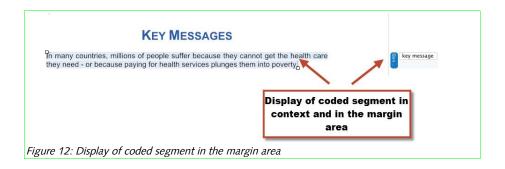
After adding documents, you can begin to code your data.

If you do not wish to code your data just yet and instead first are going to read, highlight, and comment on selected data segments, take a look at the section "Working With Quotations."

To code a data segment, highlight it with your mouse and select the **ADD CODING** button:



After coding, the quotation name and the code label are displayed in the margin area:

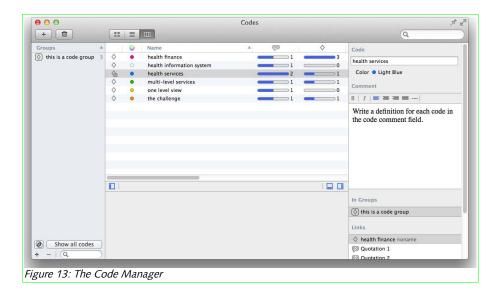


Coding image, audio or video data works in the same way: You highlight a segment with your mouse, click on the Add coding button (or right-click and select Add Codes), and enter a code. When coding audio or video data, you highlight a segment on the audio-wave form (see Figure 17 below).

The Code Manager

Open the Code Manager by clicking on the button **Codes** above the document area, or select **Code / Show Code Manager** from the main menu.

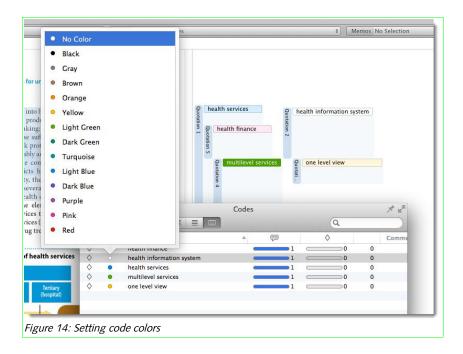
In the Code Manager you can add code colors, write a comment for each code, retrieve coded segments, create code groups or use it for drag & drop coding.



Click on the circle in the "color column" just before the code name and select a color for each code. In Error: Reference source not found below you see how code colors are displayed in the margin.

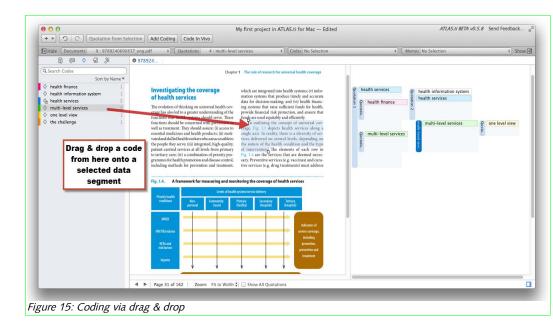


If you want the Code Manager to stay on top, click on the pin icon in the top right-hand corner.



Coding With Existing Codes

You can either drag & drop a code from the Code Manager onto a selected data segment, or as shown in the Figure 15 below, from the navigator:



Creating (Code) Groups

Codes, documents and memos can be grouped. Groups are the equivalent to "families" in ATLAS.ti for Windows. Groups can be used for sorting and organizing purposes, but also as filter. Currently groups can be used to set local filters, which means a filter only applies to the currently open window and not to the entire project. Global filter options will be added in the future.

This is how you create groups:

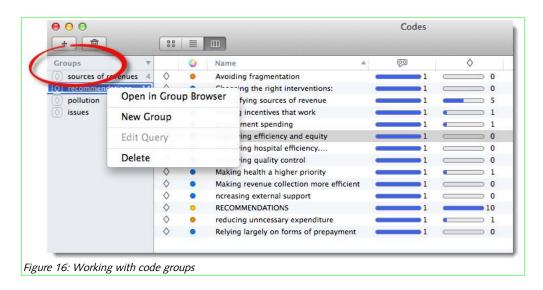
Open one of the Managers. Click on the plus sign at the bottom of the Groups pane or right-click inside the Groups pane and select **New Group**. Enter a group name.

Add members to the group via drag and drop from the list of documents / codes / memos in the manager.

If you click on a group, the items in the manager are filtered and only the members of the selected group are listed.

Click on **Show all codes** to reset the filter.

To remove an item from a group, open the Groups Manager, e.g. via the main menu (Show Documents / Codes / Memos Group Manager), or by right-clicking on a group in a manager. Select: **OPEN IN GROUP BROWSER**.



Working With Quotations

It is not always desired to start setting codes immediately. You can begin by identifying interesting segments in your data, mark them and comment on them. This is exemplified below based on a video document.

In a video or audio document, you create a quotation simply by highlighting an area on the audio-wave form. For all other document types, you need to click on the button **QUOTATION FROM SELECTION**. Soon you will also be able to select this option from the context menu.

After creating a quotation, you can modify the default name and write a comment in the inspector (see Figure 17).

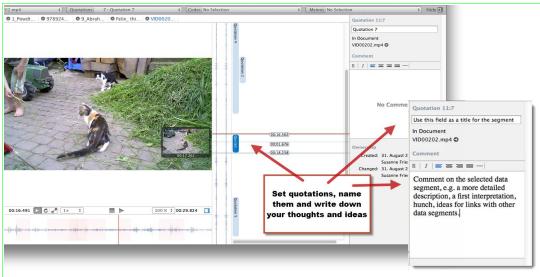
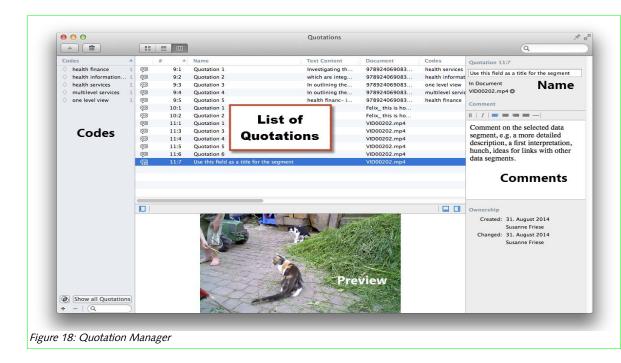


Figure 17: Create quotations, add names and write comments

To keep track of your data and your thoughts open the Quotation Manager by clicking on the *Quotations* button, or select **QUOTATION / SHOW QUOTATION**MANAGER from the main menu:



Each quotation automatically receives an ID and a name. The default name is quotation 1, quotation 2, quotation 3 and so on and can be renamed. If a

quotation contains text, the first 100 characters are included in the column 'text content'.

The quotation ID consists of the document number and a number indicating the chronological sequence when a quotation was created in the document. Thus, quotation 9:5 comes from document 9 and was the fifths quotation that was created in this document.

When you select a quotation in the list, its content is displayed in the bottom pane. This is a convenient way to browse through your quotations.

When selecting a code on the left-hand side, a filter is set and only the quotation(s) coded with the selected code are shown in the list.

In the Inspector on the right-hand side you can modify the quotation name and review or edit quotation comments.

Creating Hyperlinks

To link two quotations to each other, simply drag one quotation and drop it on top of another quotation – either in the Quotation Manager or in the margin area.

Next, select one of the offered relations. If the offered relations do not suit your needs, you can create new relations in the Relations Manager:

QUOTATIONS / SHOW RELATIONS MANAGER.

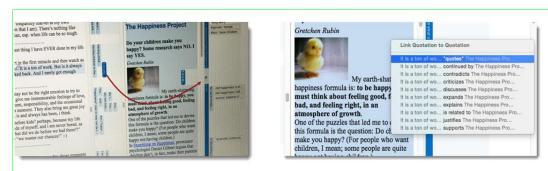


Figure 19: Creating hyperlinks when two documents are loaded side-by-side

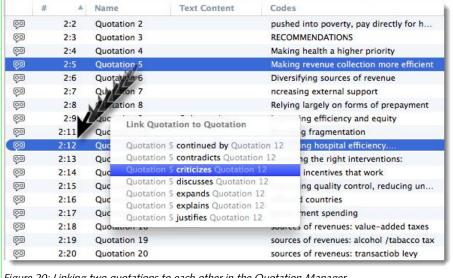
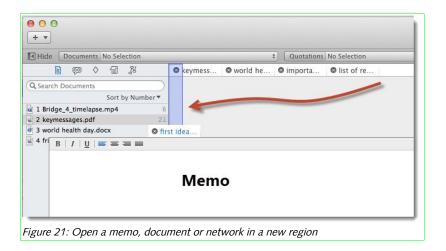


Figure 20: Linking two quotations to each other in the Quotation Manager

Working With Memos

- Open the Memo Manager by clicking on the Memos button or select MEMO / SHOW MEMO MANAGER from the main menu.
- Click on the + sign to add a new memo. Enter a name.
- Double-click to open it. It will open as new tab.



You can also open a memo into its own region, so that you can see both the memo and your data. To do so, drag the memo tab to the right, left, top or bottom edge of the document area. If you see a blue stripe, you can drop it:

You are free to split your screen vertically or horizontally:

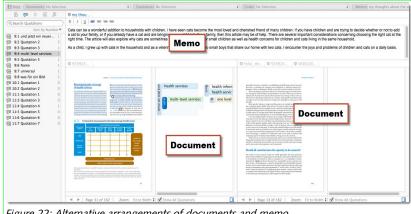
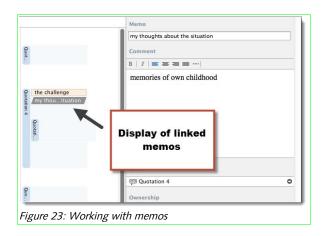


Figure 22: Alternative arrangements of documents and memo

To link a memo to a data segment, drag & drop it from the Memo Manager onto a quotation, or select a memo in navigator and drag & drop it from there.



When selecting a memo in the margin area, the inspector on the right-hand side is displaying the detailed information for this memo (see Figure 23).

Visualizing Your Thoughts And Ideas In Network Views

To create a new network view, select Network / New Network. Enter a

Drag and drop items from the Managers, margin area, or the navigator into the view.

The node types (document, quotation, code, memo, network view) can be recognized by their entity specific icon (compare Figure 2). If you right-click on a node, you see further options that are available (Figure 24).

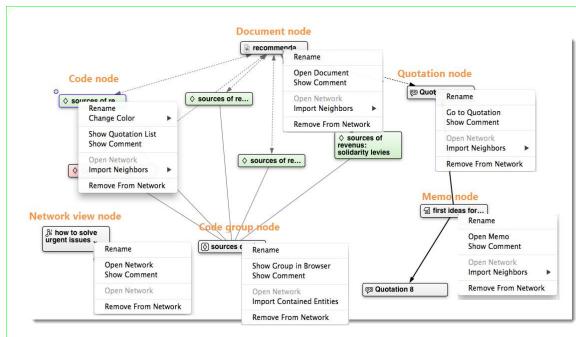
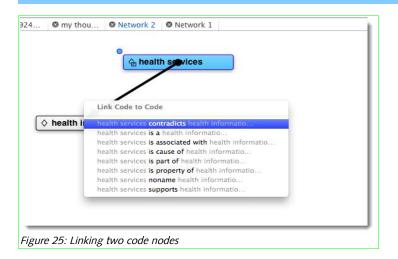


Figure 24: Node types and available options

Linking Nodes

To link for instance two codes to each other, select a code node. A circle appears at the top left corner of the node. Drag the circle to another cpde node and left-click. A list of relation opens. Select the one that best fits the relation between the two codes.

You can also create your own relations in the Relation Manager (see CODES / SHOW RELATION MANAGER).



Named relations can be created between two codes and between two quotations. The latter are called hyperlinks in ATLAS.ti (see also "Creating"

Hyperlinks"). Other objects can be linked, but you cannot specify the relation between them. This applies to

Code – Memo / Code – Quotation (this is the same as coding) / Memo – Memo and Memo – Quotation links.

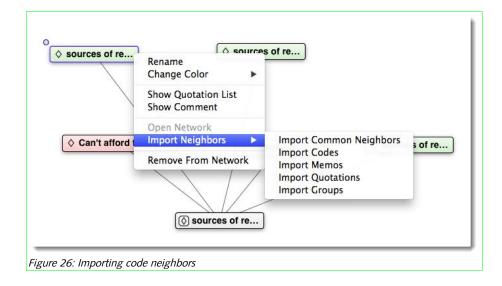
You can also display groups and their contained entities (see "Importing Neighbors" below), or add a new item to the group by linking it via drag and drop. The difference is that you cannot name this link.

It is possible to display the quotations that are contained within a document, via the importing neighbor option, but you cannot link a quotation to a document in a network view. It would not make much sense. e.g. to link a quotation from document 5 to document 3, as it does not belong to it. What you can do is to link it to a quotation of document 3, which means creating a hyperlink.

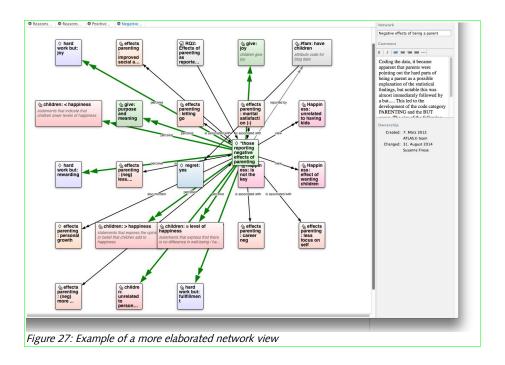
Importing Neighbors

Neighbors are all entities that are directly linked to a node. For codes these could be other codes, memos, quotations or code groups. Depending on the node type you click, you are offered the choices that apply.

To import neighbors in a network view, right-click on a node and make your choice:



The figure below offers a preview of how your network views might look like one day. On the right-hand side you see the inspector, providing further information on the network view.



Further Analysis Tools

The analysis options in version 1.0.x of ATLAS.ti for Mac are yet not complete, however will be extended continuously. The following options are currently available:

- Simple retrieval by code in the Quotation and Code Manager
- AND and OR queries in the Quotation Manager
- The creation of smart codes offering the full range of operators (Boolean, semantic and proximity operators)
- · Code-Cooccurence Table

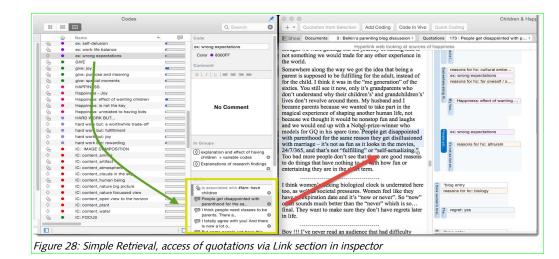
Not available yet are:

- · Reports based on queries
- The full query tool including the scope option, i.e. code queries in combination with variables (= PD groups)
- Codes-Primary Documents-Table

Simple Retrieval In The Code Or Quotation Manager

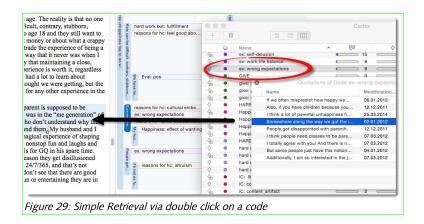
Select a code in the Code Manager. If not opened, open the inspector on the right-hand side of the Manager. All linked quotations are listed in the bottom pane of the inspector.

Click on the right-arrow to view each quotation in context.



OR

Open the Code Manager and double-click on a code. The list of quotations coded by this code opens. Click on a quotation to view it full length and in context.



OR

Open the Quotation Manager. Select a code in the navigator on the lefthand side. This filters the list of quotations and only those quotations linked to the selected code are shown. Click on each quotation to view its content in the preview pane at the bottom.

Do view the quotations in context, make sure that the Quotation Manager stays on top by selecting the pin (top right). Double-click on each quotation to view it in context.

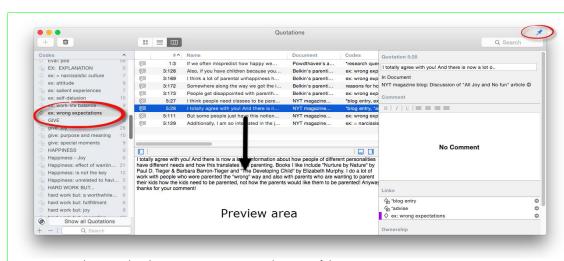
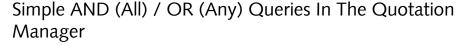
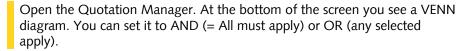


Figure 30: Simple retrieval in the Quotation Manager making use of the preview pane





The simple retrieval option in the Quotation Manager can be extended to include also more than one code:



Select two or more codes holding down the **cmb** key.

Figure 31 shows the result of an example AND query. The two codes '#fam: have children' and '#fam:t-teenagers' have been selected holding down the CMD key. The quotation list displays the resulting 6 quotations that contain all comments written by parents of teenage kids.

The quotation content is displayed in the bottom pane.



Working With Smart Codes

"Intelligent" Smart Codes compute their quotations "on demand."

0

OR

0

AND

Smart codes are a convenient way to store queries. They are very similar in look and feel to normal codes, with one important difference: Instead of "hardwired" connections to quotations, smart codes store a query to compute their virtual references whenever needed. They "automatically" change their behavior during the course of theory building. If you have a smart code based on a query like

```
(Code A | Code B) COOCCUR Code C
```

and you add or delete quotations linked to either Code A, B or C, then the quotations linked to the smart code will automatically be adjusted.

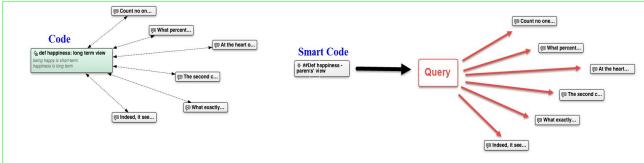


Figure 32: Difference between a code and smart code: Codes are directly linked to quotations; smart codes are a stored query



Smart Codes can be selected in a code list (either in the Code Manager or the navigators) like any other code and they will display their quotations in an identical way.

Smart codes are displayed in the Code Manager and in the Navigator just like regular codes and can be recognized by the filled icon (see left). The list of quotations associated with a smart code can be displayed with a double-click, just as for any other code.

Smart Codes are *not* displayed in the margin area and as they are stored queries they can *not* be used for coding.

Smart Codes can however be added to code groups, to Network Views, and, last but not least, as powerful operands in other queries, allowing you to incrementally build complex queries.

Creating Smart Codes

To create a new smart code, select **Code / New Smart** Code from the main menu. Enter a name for your smart code and click **Create**.



Is coded with
Is coded with Code in Group

Exactly one of the following is true
All of the following are true
Any of the following are true
None of the following are true

All parents of Code
All children of Code
Children of all parents of code

Quotation cooccurrences
Quotations enclosing quotations
Quotations being enclosed by quotations
Quotations overlapping at start
Quotations following quotations
Quotations following quotations
Quotations preceding quotations

Figure 33: Set of operators

This opens the smart code editor where you can define the conditions for your smart codes.

Three sets of operators are available:

Boolean operators allow combinations of keywords according to set operations. They are the most common operators used in information retrieval systems.

Semantic operators exploit the network structures that were built from the codes.

Proximity operators are used to analyze the spatial relations (e. g., distance, embeddedness, overlapping, co-occurrence) between coded data segments.

For a detailed description of all operators, see the full manual.

The Word Cruncher

This feature offers word "crunching" capabilities for a simple quantitative content analysis. It creates a list of word frequency counts for the selected or all (currently filtered) textual PDs. An **exception list** can be used to control the analysis.



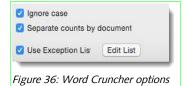
Figure 35: Example of a Word Cruncher output - comparing the word count of two documents

To create such a table, select **Analysis / Word Cruncher**. The Word Cruncher opens.

Select one or more documents in the Documents column on the left. The table immediately fills with content. At the bottom of the table you have a few further options:

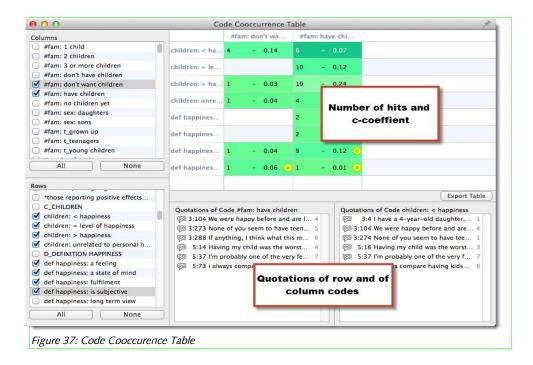
If you select "Separate counts by document" you get the total and relative counts for all selected documents, and separate frequency counts for each document.

Results can be improved by preparing adequate exceptions lists. You can add words to the exception list by right-clicking on a word in the Word Cruncher, or by editing the list. For further information, see the full manual (http://manual.atlasti.com).



Code Cooccurence Analysis

You find the Code Cooccurence Table under the **ANALYSIS** menu. The example query shown in Figure 37 below compares the answers provided by respondents with and without children (column codes) with regard to a number of different issues (row codes):



To create such a table select column and row codes on the left-hand side by ticking the boxes in front of the codes. The table fills in automatically when selecting row codes.

Click on a cell in the table to view the resulting quotations in the pane at the bottom. Double-click to access a quotation in context.

Currently the output option consists of exporting the table as Excel-compatible file in csv format. Other options including a full report of all cooccuring quotations will follow.

The C-Coefficient

The calculation of the c-coefficient is based on approaches borrowed from quantitative content analysis. Thus, interpreting such a coefficient is only meaningful with a sizable data set and not for an interview study with 10 respondents.

The c-coefficient should vary between 0: codes do not co-occur, and 1: these two codes co-occur wherever they are used. It is calculated as follows:

$$c := n12/(n1 + n2) - n12$$

n12 = co-occurrence frequency of two codes c1 and c2, whereby n1 and n2 are their occurrence frequency.

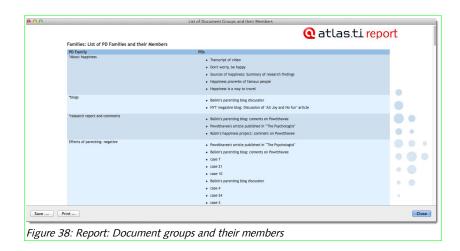
Creating Output And Reports

Project Reports

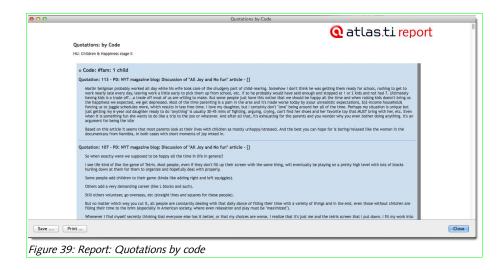
You find an output option under the main menu of each entity type: Document, Quotation, Code, Memo and Network. Currently all output options refer to the entire project. You cannot for instance export quotations of just one code. Such reports will however be implemented soon.

Below, a few output options are shown as examples:

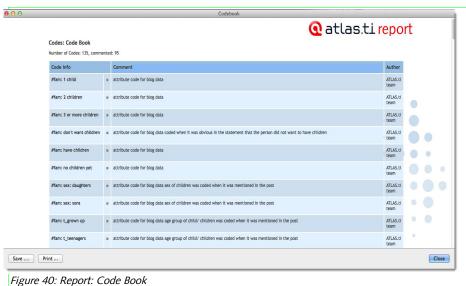
DOCUMENTS / OUTPUT / LIST OF DOCUMENT GROUPS AND THEIR MEMBERS



QUOTATIONS / OUTPUT / QUOTATIONS BY CODE



CODES / OUTPUT / CODE BOOK



Tigure 40. Report. Code book

Print With Margin

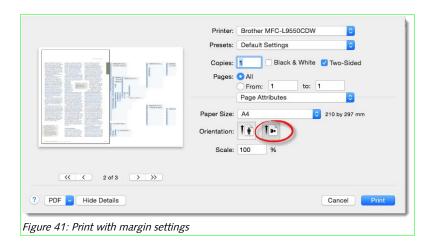
The Print with Margin option creates a WYSIWYG printout of coded documents (<u>W</u>hat <u>Y</u>ou <u>See Is W</u>hat <u>Y</u>ou <u>Get</u>). Instead of printing a document, you can also save it as PDF file, mail the PDF file or add it to iBooks, etc.

Print with Margin is available for textual primary documents, PDF and image PDs.

The printout resembles the screen display at the time of creating the output. Only those margin objects are included that are currently displayed in the margin. If not everything that you want to be visible is included, adjust the margin area. To change the type of objects that are displayed, right click on a white space in the margin area to open the context menu and select the objects to be included in the output.

- Load the primary document that you want to print.
- Select Project / Print Document from the main menu.
- The printer dialogue window opens. Make your choices.

For instance, select landscape orientation if your codes spread over several columns. When changing the settings the preview adjusts automatically.



If you do not want to print the entire document, select start and end page. The pages are shown in the preview.